

Transitional Assistance Department (TAD)

Transitional Assistance Department is Best in Class

Elizabeth Lepe, Assistant to Director

The Transitional Assistance Department continues to garner statewide honors for its work to meet the nutritional needs of San Bernardino County residents.

The California Food Policy Advocates (CFPA) announced that San Bernardino County Transitional Assistance Department (TAD) <u>ranks 3rd out of the 58 California counties</u> for the highest use of CalFresh benefits relative to the number of those eligible in our county. TAD was recognized with the '2014 Freshy' and won 'Best in Class' in the large county category.

'Freshy' awards are given to organizations innovative in improving the CalFresh program and/or increasing participation. Ensuring that those who qualify for CalFresh have access to and apply for those benefits is a priority for TAD. The department continues to help improve the health and well-being of qualified households and individuals by providing them with a means to meet their nutritional needs.

"It is very exciting that for the second year in a row, TAD has been recognized for increasing our CalFresh participation," said TAD Assistant Director Gilbert Ramos. "I am very pleased with TAD's outcomes, but know there is still work to be done."

In San Bernardino County, if all who are eligible received CalFresh benefits, those new to the program would receive an estimated \$34 million in federally funded nutrition benefits each year. Those CalFresh dollars would translate into an additional \$60.8 million in economic activity countywide.

Applications for CalFresh benefits can be completed online at www.C4Yourself.com by clicking 'Apply for Benefits.' For additional information on CalFresh benefits or eligibility requirements visit www.calfresh.ca.gov.